

VISIT...

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HUMMINGBIRDS



Have you ever seen a hummingbird? They are very small and fast. They are pretty birds. Their feathers are red, blue, green, and other colors. Their wings move so fast that you cannot see them. You can sometimes hear their wings beating: hummm! Hummingbirds can fly forwards *and* backwards. Other birds can't do that.

We have a hummingbird feeder. It is red. It is full of sugar water. My mother hangs it outside the house, by the window. We hang it up every spring. The hummingbirds come in the summer. We watch them when they come to drink. They fly around the feeder. They play games. They try to catch each other.

Hummingbirds eat insects and flower nectar. They have long bills and long tongues so that they can get nectar from flowers. They also drink a lot from the feeder. My mother says the feeder gives them extra energy. When the hummingbirds are full they fly away.

I read that hummingbirds eat their whole weight in food every day. That seems like a lot for a person, but hummingbirds are very small. Once I saw one that was as small as a bumblebee!

The little birds fly south when the weather gets cold. I wish I could fly south with them!

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Answer the questions about *HUMMINGBIRDS*

1. What can hummingbirds do that other birds cannot?
 - a. Spell.
 - b. Fly backward.
 - c. Fly forward.
 - d. Open doors.

2. Why do people give hummingbirds sugar water?
 - a. It is a good source of energy for hummingbirds.
 - b. It makes the birds sweeter.
 - c. It makes hummingbirds playful.
 - d. It keeps them coming back.

3. Why do hummingbirds have long bills and tongues?
 - a. To attract other hummingbirds.
 - b. To help them drink nectar from flowers.
 - c. To frighten away enemies.
 - d. To help them fly.

4. How small is the smallest hummingbird?
 - a. The size of a chicken.
 - b. The size of a robin.
 - c. The size of a sparrow.
 - d. The size of a bee.

5. What do hummingbirds do in winter?
 - a. Hibernate.
 - b. Go indoors.
 - c. Fly south.
 - d. Grow thick, downy feathers.

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Answers for *HUMMINGBIRDS*

1. b
2. a
3. b
4. d
5. c